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Agenda item 114 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.101 and Add.1)*]

63/310. Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[1]

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as its resolutions 55/218 of 21 December 2000, 56/48 of 7 December 2001, 57/48 of 21 November 2002, 59/213 of 20 December 2004 and 61/296 of 17 September 2007,

Recalling also the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in 2000 in Lomé,[2]

Recalling further the decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at all its ordinary and extraordinary sessions,

Welcoming the adoption of the framework for the ten-year capacity-building programme for the African Union set out in the declaration on enhancing United Nations-African Union cooperation, signed in Addis Ababa on 16 November 2006 by the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission,[3] which highlights the key areas for cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations,

Acknowledging the decision of the African Union Peace and Security Council at its sixty-eighth meeting, held on 14 December 2006, on the establishment of a coordination and consultation mechanism between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council, welcoming the June 2007 agreement to hold joint meetings at least once a year,[4] and taking note of the third consultative meeting held in July 2009 in Addis Ababa,

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[1] A/63/228-S/2008/531 and Corr.1.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2158, No. 37733.

[3] A/61/630, annex.

[4] See S/2007/386, annex.

Recalling the adoption of the African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact at the fourth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, as an instrument to reinforce cooperation among States members of the African Union in the areas of defence and security and which, in particular, can contribute to the work of the African Union Peace and Security Council and its cooperation with the United Nations,

Welcoming, while taking into account the role of the General Assembly, the statements by the President of the Security Council of 19 November 2004 on the institutional relationship with the African Union,[5] of 28 March 2007 on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security,[6] and of 18 March 2009 on peace and security in Africa,[7] as well as Security Council resolution 1809 (2008) of 16 April 2008,

Welcoming also the efforts to enhance cooperation between the peace and security structures of the United Nations and the African Union in the realm of conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding in Africa, including efforts to implement the African Union Framework for Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development,

Acknowledging the significant contribution of the African Union towards the prevention and combating of terrorism, and noting the centrality of the international partnership and cooperation between the African Union, the relevant United Nations organs and the wider international community in the global fight against terrorism,

Recognizing the need to enhance the strategic relationship between the United Nations and the African Union, as a basis for a more effective partnership embodying the principles of mutual respect when addressing issues of mutual concern,

Welcoming the efforts of the African Union and the United Nations, together with other international partners, to provide effective support for peacekeeping missions undertaken in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter by regional organizations, in particular the African Union, with reference to start-up funding, equipment, logistics and long-term capacity-building, as reflected in Security Council resolution 1809 (2008),

Bearing in mind the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[8] and various relevant resolutions adopted since 2002,[9]

Recognizing the pivotal need to bring Africa into the mainstream of the global economy and to strengthen the global partnership to address the special development needs of Africa, particularly the eradication of poverty, and in this regard, welcoming the political declaration adopted on 22 September 2008 on the occasion of the high-level meeting on the theme "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward",[10] and the importance of its implementation and the responsibilities of the States members

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[5] S/PRST/2004/44; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2004–31 July 2005*.

[6] S/PRST/2007/7; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2006–31 July 2007*.

[7] S/PRST/2009/3; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2008–31 July 2009*.

[8] See resolution 57/2.

[9] Resolutions 57/7, 58/233, 59/254, 60/222 and 61/229.

[10] See resolution 63/1.

of the African Union and the United Nations in this regard, as well as the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[11]

Stressing the need for extending the scope of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in the area of combating the illegal exploitation of natural resources in Africa,

Emphasizing the importance of the effective, coordinated and integrated implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[12] the Doha Development Agenda,[13] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[14] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[15] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[16] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[17]

Emphasizing also the importance of the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, at which the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development was adopted,[18] and the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, and stressing to all Member States the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[19] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[20] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[21]

Recalling the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted in Maputo on 11 July 2003,

Recommitting to improving the effectiveness of development assistance, including the fundamental principles of ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability, calling for a continuing dialogue to improve the effectiveness of aid, including the full implementation of the Accra Agenda for Action[22] by countries and organizations that commit to it,

Acknowledging the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office at Addis Ababa in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, as well as the need to consolidate it so as to enhance its performance in view of the expanding scope of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

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[11] A/57/304, annex.

[12] See resolution 55/2.

[13] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[14] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[15] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[16] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[17] See resolution 60/1.

[18] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[19] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[20] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[21] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[22] A/63/539, annex.

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union will contribute to the advancement of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the development of Africa,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] calls for the implementation of the declaration on enhancing United Nations-African Union cooperation: framework for the ten-year capacity-building programme for the African Union,[2] and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Secretariat and to implement its mandate with respect to meeting the special needs of Africa, in accordance with the established United Nations procedures;

2. *Recalls* the primary responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, and requests the United Nations system to intensify its assistance to the African Union, as appropriate, in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of its Peace and Security Council, and in coordinating with other international partners when needed;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to pursue the ongoing measures to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of United Nations and African Union cooperation, recommends the continued improvement of the field presence of the United Nations Secretariat at the headquarters of the African Union, recognizing the need to ensure an appropriate level of representation at the United Nations Liaison Office at Addis Ababa commensurate with the increasing political integration of the African Union, the responsibilities for implementing all aspects of the ten-year capacity-building programme, coordinating the United Nations system in existing and emerging areas of cooperation in peace and security and political and humanitarian affairs, in order to enhance the strategic and operational partnership between the United Nations and the African Union and its subregions;

4. *Recognizes* the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing for regional organizations when they undertake peacekeeping under a United Nations mandate, and looks forward to the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council of 18 March 2009;[3]

5. *Stresses* the urgent need for the United Nations and the African Union to develop close cooperation and concrete programmes aimed at addressing the problems posed by illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and anti-personnel mines, within the framework of the relevant declarations and resolutions adopted by the two organizations;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the African Union and the international community to intensify their cooperation in the global fight against terrorism through the implementation of the relevant international and regional treaties and protocols and, in particular, the African Plan of Action adopted in Algiers on 14 September 2002, as well as their support for the operation of the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism inaugurated in Algiers in October 2004;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to intensify its efforts, in collaboration with the African Union, in combating the illegal exploitation of natural resources, particularly in conflict areas, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and the African Union;

8. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system to support the African Union and its member States in their efforts to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Stresses* the need for closer cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the African Union, in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement[23] as well as other relevant memorandums of understanding between the two organizations, particularly in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[22] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome[17] and as regards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, at the national, subregional and regional levels;

10. *Encourages* the deepening of collaboration between the African Union, recalling its Framework for Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development, and the Peacebuilding Commission on enhancing international support for African countries on the agenda of the Commission, and reiterates the need for enhanced coordination and consultations between the Commission and the African Union on assistance for countries emerging from conflict;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to request all relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to intensify their efforts to support cooperation with the African Union, including through the implementation of the protocols to the Constitutive Act of the African Union[2] and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[24] and to assist in harmonizing the programmes of the African Union with those of the African regional economic communities with a view to enhancing regional economic cooperation and integration;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations and the African Union to pursue joint initiatives for partnerships in Africa through, inter alia, the United Nations Office for Partnerships and Global Compact;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations system to effectively support the efforts of the African Union by urging the international community to strive for the successful and timely completion of the Doha round of trade negotiations, including negotiations aimed at substantial improvements in areas such as trade-related measures, including market access and regional economic integration, to promote sustainable growth in Africa;

14. *Invites* the United Nations system to enhance its support for African countries in their efforts to implement the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[16]

15. *Encourages* the United Nations to take special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication through the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, noting the importance of addressing, inter alia, debt cancellation, enhanced official development assistance, increases in flows of foreign direct investment and voluntary transfer of technology, the World Food Programme, the agriculture partnership to combat hunger, universal primary education initiatives, gender equality programmes, improved maternal health programmes, and HIV/AIDS education;

16. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of the Plan of Action contained in the document entitled "A world fit for children", adopted on 10 May 2002 at the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children,[25] and to provide assistance, as appropriate, to the African Union and its member States in this regard, welcomes the ongoing efforts of the African Union to ensure the protection of the rights of children, and recalls in this

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[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1580, No. 1044.

[24] A/46/651, annex.

[25] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

regard the adoption of the Call for accelerated action on the implementation of the Plan of Action towards Africa Fit for Children (2008–2012);[26]

17. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the African Union to develop a coherent and effective strategy, including through joint programmes and activities, for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa, within the framework of the implementation of regional and international treaties, resolutions and plans of action adopted by the two organizations;

18. *Urges* the United Nations system to increase its support for Africa in the implementation of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases, held in Abuja in April 2001,[27] and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[28] so as to arrest the spread of these diseases, inter alia, through sound capacity-building in human resources;

19. *Also urges* the United Nations system to continue to implement General Assembly resolutions 58/149 of 22 December 2003 and 63/149 of 18 December 2008, on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, and effectively to support African countries in their efforts to incorporate the problems of refugees into national and regional development plans;

20. *Requests* the United Nations system to cooperate with the African Union and its member States in the implementation of appropriate policies for the promotion of the culture of democracy, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law and the strengthening of democratic institutions;

21. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the international community to fulfil the commitments they undertook during the high-level event on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York on 25 September 2008;

22. *Welcomes and supports* the ongoing efforts of the African Union to support gender equality, the empowerment of women and social development, and recalls in this regard the declaration of the African Women's Decade by the Assembly of the African Union in February 2009,[29] and the African Union Gender Policy,[30] the Social Policy Framework for Africa[31] and the Windhoek Declaration on Social Development,[32] as adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union in January 2009;

23. *Recalls* its resolution 63/250 of 24 December 2008 on human resources management, and urges the Secretary-General to encourage the United Nations system, within existing rules and regulations, to work towards ensuring the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at the respective headquarters of its organizations and in their regional fields of operation;

24. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, working in collaboration, to review every two years the

[26] A/62/653, annex.

[27] Organization of African Unity, document OAU/SPS/ABUJA/3.

[28] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[29] See A/63/848, annex II, decision Assembly/AU/Dec.229 (XII).

[30] Ibid., annex I, decision EX.CL/Dec.487 (XIV).

[31] Ibid., decision EX.CL/Dec.473 (XIV).

progress made in the cooperation between the two organizations, and requests the Secretary-General to include the results of the review in his next report;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

105th plenary meeting
14 September 2009